

CHAPTER 6256

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

FROGS AND TURTLES

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FROGS

6256.0050 DEFINITION OF FROGS.

“Frogs” means the following species:

- A. northern cricket frog (*Acris crepitans*);
- B. Cope’s gray tree frog (*Hyla chrysoscelis*);
- C. gray tree frog (*Hyla versicolor*);
- D. spring peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*);
- E. chorus frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*);
- F. bull frog (*Rana catesbeiana*);
- G. green frog (*Rana clamitans*);
- H. pickerel frog (*Rana palustris*);
- I. northern leopard frog (*Rana pipiens*);
- J. mink frog (*Rana septentrionalis*);
- K. wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*);
- L. American toad (*Bufo americanus*);
- M. great plains toad (*Bufo cognatus*);
- N. Canadian toad (*Bufo hemiophrys*);
- O. plains leopard frog (*Rana blain*);
- P. southern leopard frog (*Rana utricularia*);
- Q. pig frog (*Rana grylio*); and
- R. river frog (*Rana becksheri*).

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.601*

History: 23 SR 348

6256.0100 ALLOWED TIMES FOR TAKING FROGS.

Frogs may only be taken between sunrise and sunset, except as otherwise permitted.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.601; and others at 19 SR 6*

History: 19 SR 484

6256.0200 SIZE LIMITS FOR LEOPARD FROGS AND BULL FROGS.

Northern leopard frogs (*Rana pipiens*) and bull frogs (*Rana catesbeiana*) must be more than six inches long when taken or possessed for purposes other than bait.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.601; and others at 19 SR 6*

History: 19 SR 484; 23 SR 348

6256.0300 PERMITS FOR IMPORTING FROGS.

Live frogs may not be imported for purposes other than bait, unless authorized by a specific permit issued by the commissioner.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.601; and others at 19 SR 6*

History: *19 SR 484*

6256.0400 REPORTS, RECORDS, AND INSPECTIONS TO TAKE FROGS FOR NONBAIT.

All licensees and permittees who have taken frogs for purposes other than bait must report activities of the previous license year, on forms provided by the commissioner, before relicensing.

All licensees and permittees who take or possess frogs for purposes other than bait must keep a record book that includes the number or weight of each species of frog acquired by taking or purchase and sold, the name and address of each purchaser and seller, and the date of each transaction. These records must be kept current within 48 hours of a transaction.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.601; and others at 19 SR 6*

History: *19 SR 484*

TURTLES**6256.0500 COMMERCIAL TAKING OF TURTLES.**

Subpart 1. **Scope.** The language of this part applies to individuals possessing turtle seller licenses.

Subp. 2. **Equipment.** Turtles may be taken by a person possessing a turtle seller's license by means of turtle traps, turtle hooks, and other authorized commercial fishing gear.

Flexible webbing turtle traps must be of mesh size not less than 3-1/2 inches bar measure or seven inches stretch measure.

Wire turtle traps must be of mesh size not less than 3-1/2 inches bar measure and must have at least one square opening in the top panel measuring at least four inches on a side and one of the same dimension near the bottom in each of the side panels.

Subp. 3. **Prohibited methods of taking turtles.** A person possessing a turtle seller's license may take turtles in any manner except by the use of explosives, drugs, poisons, lime, and other harmful substances or firearms.

Subp. 4. **Operation of turtle trap.** A turtle trap must be set in water shallow enough to place the top no deeper than one inch below the water surface. Each trap must be checked and serviced at intervals not exceeding 48 hours. A licensee may not operate more than 40 traps.

Subp. 5. **Required marking of turtle trap.** When in use, each turtle trap must have affixed on it a tag of permanent material visible from above, legibly bearing the name, address, and license number of the operator. This information must be recorded in an indelible manner on the tag. The tag must be of dimensions not less than 2-1/2 inches in length by five-eighths inch in width.

Subp. 6. **Turtles taken incidental to other operations.** Turtles taken incidental to other commercial fishing operations may be possessed, transported, and sold, provided the operator is a holder of a turtle seller's license.

Subp. 7. **Required reporting by turtle seller.** A holder of a turtle seller's license must submit reports for the previous calendar year, on forms provided by the commissioner, so that they are received at the address identified on the form at the time of license renewal or March 1, whichever comes first. The forms must record the numbers and pounds of turtles taken, species of turtles taken, and other information as specified.

Subp. 8. **Report on buying turtles for resale.** A licensee who buys turtles for resale or for processing and resale must keep a correct and complete book record of all transactions and activities covered in the license, not inconsistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.425.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.605*

History: *18 SR 83; 23 SR 348*

6256.0600 CLOSED SEASON FOR SNAPPING TURTLES.

A person may not take snapping turtles during the months of May and June, including persons harvesting turtles for personal use under an angling license and persons harvesting turtles under a commercial license.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97C.605*

History: *22 SR 292*